GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SHIPPING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4669
ANSWERED ON:30.03.2017
Use of LNG Fuel in Vessels
Venkatesh Babu Shri T.G.

Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government/InlandWaterways Authority of India proposesto switch over from diesel to LiquefiedNatural Gas (LNG) as fuel for vessels usedin the inland waterways;
(b) if so, the details thereof along withthe estimated cost savings as a resultthereof;
(c) whether the Government hasrecently declared a number of inlandwaterways as National Waterways andproposes to develop new ports in thecountry including near Colachel;
(d) if so, the details thereof; and
(e) the time by which the aboveprojects are likely to be completed?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING
(SHRI PON. RADHAKRISHNAN)

(a)&(b):The use of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) as a fuel for vessels in the inland navigation system is in developmental stage at present. The use of LNG as a fuel for inland water transport in India is being explored in consultation with the World Bank and other stakeholders under the Jal Marg Vikas Project (JMVP) which is being implemented for the capacity augmentation of National Waterway-1 (NW-1).

The regulators/ agencies associated with use of LNG as a fuel for navigation such as Oil Industry Safety Directorate, Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board, Indian Register of Shipping etc. have been requested to frame guidelines for safety in the use of LNG for bunkering facilities, ship design of vessels etc. The cost savings on account of introduction of LNG as a fuel for navigation will depend on this type of vessel.

(c)to(e):Yes, Madam. The Government has declared 111 inland waterways as 'National Waterways' under the National Waterways Act, 2016.

Six potential new port locations have been identified in the National Perspective Plan of the SagarmalaProgramme. These are Vadhavan in Maharashtra, Sagar Island in West Bengal, Paradip Outer Harbour in Odisha, Enayam (Colachel) and Sirkazhi in Tamil Nadu and Belekeri in Karnataka. These sites are under preliminary stages of examination and no timelines have yet been identified.
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